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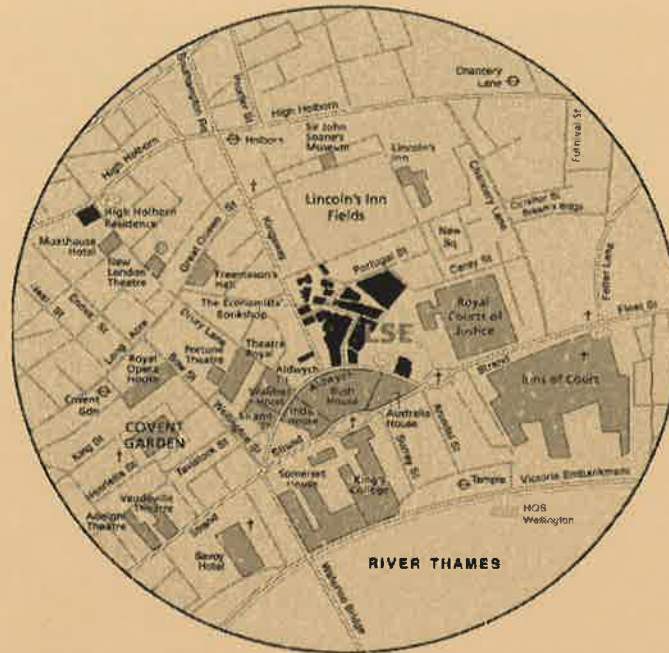
ASEN Conference Committee
2nd Floor – The Old Building

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Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE
U.K.

Contact: ASEN Conference Committee

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Location



The Old Theatre is on the ground floor of The Old Building, inside the main entrance to The London School of Economics & Political Science. **Copies of this form are available online at WWW.LSE.AC.UK/ASEN**

THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF ETHNICITY AND NATIONALISM

presents

The 13th Annual ASEN Conference



Nationalism & Language



FRIDAY
28 MARCH 2003



THE OLD THEATRE
THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS &
POLITICAL SCIENCE
HOUGHTON STREET, LONDON

Overview

In Ernest Gellner's classic theory language is a central component of nationalism, and a high vernacular culture provides the cement of modernity. But it stands opposed to the influential approach of Joshua Fishman who emphasises the primordial attachments evoked by language in many nationalists. How important is language as a component of national identities, and why? What kind of cultural and political projects does a language-based nationalism engender? Will national languages survive in a globalised world?

The morning session considers *The Rise of National Languages*. The first presentation offers an overview of the field. The second assesses the importance Herder places on language and the impact of his ideas, particularly on Central and Eastern Europe. The third examines the responsibility of the Hebrew Bible for the emergence of vernacular languages and literatures. The morning panel will debate whether the prominence of language in nationalism is a predominantly European phenomenon.

The afternoon session, *The Politics of National Languages*, begins by examining how nationalists used language to separate and unify populations in the Indian subcontinent. The second presentation takes as its case study the Balkans. The final talk investigates the problem of creating a European identity without an obvious *lingua franca* and common cultural basis. The afternoon panel discussion considers whether the question of national language will become redundant if an Anglophone global culture should take root.



Programme

09:00 - 09:45 Registration

Morning Session: The Rise of National Languages

09:45 - 10:00 Opening Address

10:00 - 10:30 *Nationalism and Language Reconsidered*
Professor Joshua A. Fishman

10:30 - 11:00 *The Legacy of Herder*
Dr. Erica Benner

11:00 - 11:45 Coffee & Tea

11:45 - 12:15 *The Hebrew Bible and National Poetry*
Dr. David Aberbach

12:15 - 13:00 Panel Discussion: *Is linguistic nationalism predominantly European?*

13:00 - 14:30 Lunch

Afternoon Session: The Politics of National Languages

14:30 - 15:00 *Language and Elite Politics in South Asia*
Professor Paul R. Brass

15:00 - 15:30 *Language Politics in the Balkans*
Dr. Cathie Carmichael

15:30 - 16:00 Coffee & Tea

16:00 - 16:30 *The Babel of Europe*
Professor Philip Schlesinger

16:30 - 17:15 Panel Discussion: *Is globalisation making national languages redundant?*

17:30 Conference End

Registration

ASEN members receive discounted registration to the Annual Conference as well as annual subscriptions to the Association's acclaimed journals *Nations & Nationalism* and *Studies in Ethnicity & Nationalism*. Additional information on the many benefits of membership is available online at WWW.LSE.AC.UK/ASEN.

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